Neutrals.

1	Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.	4	Mr. K. T. Mathew.
2	,, Joseph Pettah.	5	,, P. C. Virkey.
3	,, S. S. Koder.		

The Demand minus Re. 1 was then put and carried.

(2) 14—I. Secondary Boys—Cranganur—Rs. 700.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Mr. President, Sir, this small sum is required to supplement the deficiency which has been found in the matter of payment of stipends and scholarships under 14-1-Secondary Boys—Cranganur. The expenditure incurred so far makes this additional provision necessaay The monthly expenditure comes to Rs. 128. We have got only Rs. 800 and to meet this expenditure we require a sum of Rs. 1,500. I, therefore, request this House to allow this supplementary grant of Rs. 700.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—In the light of the assurance made on the floor of this House that a committee is to decide the issues raised by the report, I do not move the cut.

Hence the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 700 by Re. 1.*

Demand put and carried.

(3) 14—II—Secondary Girls—Cranganur—Rs. 122

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 122 under 14—2 Secondary Girls—Cranganur. This small amount is also required for the very same purpose, but for Secondary Girls' School. No further explanation for this additional expenditure is necessary and I therefore request that the House will be pleased to grant this additional amount also.

Demand put and carried.

(4) 19—Education—Rs. 680.

Mr I. N. Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs 680 under 19—Education. The substantial expenditure to which this forms an additional allotment was itself the subject-matter of a discussion in this Council, viz., of the appointment of the Superintendent of Vernacular Education. I feel some hesitation in asking for this additional expenditure, but consistent with the requirements and as the Superintendent of Vernacular Education is given sufficient work in connection with the Elementary Education Committee, I request that this amount may be sanctioned and he may be allowed to work to the end of this year.

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Motion No. 1.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 680 by Re. 1.* By this token motion I desire to draw the attention of the Education Department to the necessity for exercising greater scrutiny in entering the date of birth and age of the several pupils admitted into the various institutions. There is a general impression that the date of birth shown in the school registers is really not the correct one and in addition to that there have been some unpleasant and unseemly occurences of late, which led to some difficulty on the score that the age of a student shown in a register was incorrect. This is a matter of general importance to people and to students in particular and I would only draw the attention of the Director of Public Instruction to the necessity for paying greater attention to this matter.

Mr. I. N. Menon. Mr. President, Sir, there is nothing very special in this matter which obtains to the Education Department. There is a great deal of difficulty to get the exact date of birth in a country where no birth registers are kept and no certificate of birth to adduce to the accurateness of the date with regard to the date of birth of any individual, is maintained. As the rules stand at present. I am speaking for the Education Department, the date of birth of a boy or girl has to be certified to at the time of its entry in the school and when the boy or girl passes to the upper secondary department, with the inauguration of the Secondary School Leaving Certificate, the original date of birth has again got to be verified. Already there is the first entry where some check is introduced and there is also the second verification at the time of promotion to the 4th Form.

The great difficulty, as I said, is the absence of any authentic date and I honestly do not know how far it is possible, unless we have some system of birth certificate, to get over this difficulty. The evidence which at times we get is the horoscope. Hon'ble Members know how much value can be attached to the horoscope. The difficulty is all the greater when these horoscopes are produced on some provocation. As the rules stand, a person shall not be appointed in the public service before he is eighteen. The date of entry in the certificate book shows that he is only 16 or 17. We may call for his age certificate. In reply we get a horoscope which looks somewhat tattered, dark and black. He says that it is a very ancient document and we have to accept it, or to reject it. We have to choose between the original entry in the register and the horoscope which is produced, of course for the special benefit of the department at the time. We really do not know how to choose between the two

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In the particular matter referred to by the Hon'ble Member for Trichur, some such thing seems to have happened. But I must confess that if the department had exercised a little more judgment, this particular instance might have been avoided. Because, if the altered date was accepted it would appear that the boy should have entered the school when he was about 2 years and 9 months. That is a clear mistake and could have been avoided when the date of birth was verified by the inspecting officer. But how such a contingency could be avoided in the future altogether is a matter, I am afraid, on which I cannot say any final judgment. But I assure the Hon'ble Members of this House that in view of this little instance coming up, we shall exercise even greater caution than we have been doing till now on the scrutiny of these records of dates of birth.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—I am not casting any reflection upon anybody. I only wanted to draw the attention of the Government to the matter. I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

Motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Demand put and carried.

(5) 16—Law and Justice—Rs. 40.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 40 under 16—Law and Justice—Criminal Justice—Conveyance charges of corpses and wounded persons. The budget allotment of conveyance charges is only Rs. 130 and the expenditure is anticipated to come up to Rs. 170. An additional allotment up to this amount has been already applied for by the sub-magistrates. I may also inform the House that the allotment finally for the year 1107 was Rs. 170. The anticipated excess is therefore not in any way excessive. I request the House to grant the supplementary demand.

Demand put and carried.

(6) 16—Law and Justice—Criminal Justice—Rs. 400.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 400 under 16—Law and Justice Criminal Justice—Service Labels. The excess expenditure under this head is due solely to the enhancement of the anchal rates. I therefore request the House that the grant may be made.

Demand put and carried.

(7) XI—A Criminal Justice—Service Labels—Cranganur Rs. 50.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 50 under XI—A—Criminal Justice—

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